

CIA Reports On Soviet Forgeries

A Brazilian newspaper yesterday published what the American Embassy termed a forged letter allegedly signed by J. Edgar Hoover, a letter purportedly written to congratulate an agent on the success of a large-scale secret operation.

By chance, a Central Intelligence Agency report on just such forgeries and their origin came to light the same day. It had been privately submitted to the small group of Senators and Representatives who oversee the CIA budget.

The CIA report said both that agency and Hoover's FBI are prime targets of the Soviet Union and the Communist bloc. It said that such forgeries are the work of "the Disinformation Department of the KGB," the Soviet state security service, the work of which is "reviewed and passed on by the Soviet leadership."

Unspecified Project

Michael Lerner in a special dispatch from Rio de Janeiro said Tribuna da Imprensa had published the letter of congratulation involving an unspecified project called "overhaul." The document quoted Hoover as writing that "the CIA people did their part well and accomplished a great deal."

The Embassy in Rio immediately branded it a forgery, saying it had first appeared on July 23, 1964, in Propositos of Buenos Aires, then in Ultima Hora of Santiago, Chile, and had been quoted on Radio Havana and Radio Peking. The embassy commented on this and another recent similar case:

"Obviously calculated to poison relations between the Brazilian and American people and governments, they have long since been exposed and discredited."

The CIA report repeats part of the story told at Senate hearings in 1961 on Communist forgeries. It adds that since the 32 forgeries then disclosed, 14 instances came to light by this July, presumably including the one republished in Brazil.

'350 Items Annually'

agency "now produced between 350 and 400 derogatory items annually," that it is headed by Gen. Ivan Ivanovoch Agayants and "by striking at the CIA, the attack also centers on the intelligence community with particular thrust against the FBI and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover."

The purpose of such attacks is to "defame and discredit U.S. departments and agencies that have major responsibilities for national security," to divide the Western allies and to undermine American prestige around the world.

The CIA's new director, Adm. William Raborn, is the newest target, the report stated. The Greek Communist newspaper Avghi recently ran an article entitled "U.S. Master Spy."